

THE PEOPLE, SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 1944

**Every drop of
H.P. Sauce
is precious!**

(Unobtainable in London and the S.E. Counties)

BLACK OUT
LONDON
7.29 a.m.—6.30 a.m.
PLYMOUTH
7.16 a.m.—7.0 a.m.
BIRMINGHAM
7.37 a.m.—6.28 a.m.
(Supplied by Anglo-Continental Association)

No. 3254 — 63rd Year
SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 1944

OVER 3,000,000 CERTIFIED SALE

LATE
LONDON
EDITION

Cleans
Kitchen
Utensils easily

ONE-O-ONE

From Grocers and Others
Use sparingly; supplies are restricted

Red Army's Ukraine Victory 'Shattering, Annihilating': Vast Booty

GERMANY READY TO TOPPLE BY YEAR-END

GERMAN REFEATS EVERYONE CAPABLE

From HARRISON SALISBURY, B.U.P. Staff Correspondent

"SHATTERING, ANNIHILATING." These were two of the words applied in Moscow today to the German defeat in the Ukraine this week. Make no mistake about it. This is a great victory. The debris of an army, von Manstein's army, is pouring back towards the Bug River in a retreat which, according to reports from the front, is verging on a panic.

Von Manstein's armoured losses are so severe that it is a question whether he can reorganise his forces for any determined stand anywhere before the Dniester, 100 miles to the west. **THE BOOTY WHICH HAS FALLEN INTO RUSSIAN HANDS IS STUPENDOUS, POSSIBLY EXCEEDING THAT CAPTURED IN THE KORUN AND STALINGRAD ENCOUNTERS.**

"The entire German position in the Ukraine is imperilled and the Red Army is driving on at utmost speed with the aim of freeing Nikolai, the last big town east of Odessa, before the Germans can recover from the catastrophic blow which they received this week.

The battle took shape in three moves. Last Sunday Moscow announced breakthrough of 15 to 30 miles on a 110-mile front towards Tarnopol. This resulted in the cutting of the Lvov-Odessa railway, the German lifeline in the Southern Ukraine, and the attack on Tarnopol.

The second blow was announced on Thursday, when west of Krivori Rog, in the Dniester Bend, the Russians broke through to a depth of 18 to 37 miles on a front of 109 miles, thus menacing Nikolai and the German positions along the lower Dniester.

COMMUNIQUE

280 More Places Captured

THE Russian offensive in the Ukraine is mounting steadily in strength, continues to roll back Manstein's retreat.

Last night's communiqué from Moscow announced the capture of more than 200 places, including Berislav, west of Nikolai, and the important rail junction of Bolshaya, some 25 miles north-west of Krivori Rog.

The communiqué stated: "During March 11, overcoming the enemy's resistance and counter-attacks, our troops continued street fighting in the town of Tarnopol."

In the Proskurov direction our troops continued to fight offensive encounters and captured over 30 inhabited localities, including the railway station of Kravchenko. "North-west, west and south of Tarnopol our troops continued to develop their offensive, capturing Ladyzhynka, a district centre of the Kiev region, and other places within more than 100 other inhabited localities."

49 ENEMY PLACES DOWN

"North-west and west of the town of Kirovograd our troops engaged in offensive operations, in the course of which they captured the district centre of the Kirovograd region, the towns of Zlatopol, Novo-Mirog, Bolshaya-Volka and also fought for and captured over 40 other inhabited localities."

"North-east and west of Krivori Rog our troops captured over 50 inhabited localities, including the railway station of Marchanovka. Our troops have also fought for and captured over 40 other inhabited localities."

"South-west and south of Apolostovo, continuing their offensive, our troops captured a district centre of the Nikolai region, the town of Berislav, as well as over 60 other inhabited localities."

"During March 10 on all fronts 98 German tanks were disabled or destroyed and 49 enemy planes were shot down or captured by A.A. fire."—Reuter.

Prelude To Nazi Defeat

From DONALD DILLON, B.U.P. Correspondent

DEFEATS Germany suffered in the Ukraine this week are only the prelude to total military defeat along the whole Eastern Front in the coming summer, is the opinion of U.S. military experts in Washington.

Nevertheless, they regard the present battle of the Ukraine as a decisive battle in the Russian German war.

They expect to see the German army in Southern Russia emerge either virtually destroyed or at least so battered that it will be months before they can

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Balkans Boiling Up

Hungary Tries Peace Feelers

IMPORTANT new moves affecting Rumania and Hungary were predicted last night in reports reaching London from neutral countries as the armies of the two Soviet marshals, Zhukov and Koniev, drove towards the Rumanian border.

From inside Europe a Reuter correspondent cabled unconfirmed reports—described as "worthy of credence"—that Hungary has sent peace feelers to Russia and that preliminary contact had been made.

These reports suggested that well-informed Hungarian political circles are behind the peace between Hungary and Russia within a few hours of the Soviet armies reaching Rumania's frontier.

Russia is claimed to have answered the peace feelers by promising that Soviet armies will not march into Hungary if the latter will accept the terms there and no transit facilities are granted to them.

These reports added that Russia has insisted on a change in Hungary's Government.

Many factories are claimed to have been occupied by strikers, but the police have been ordered by the authorities not to attempt to crack the premises.

Denis Martin, Reuter's special correspondent, added that reports there say that Antonov's Government has lost touch with the deteriorating Rumanian situation.

Antonov is believed to be ready to offer Besarabia to the Russians in return for support on the Transylvanian question.

Supporters of Dr. Macul, the Peasant leader, are operating openly throughout Rumania, and the army, who are Bulgarian Rumanian Black Sea coast shipyard, is reported to be a still, with dockers and seamen in a state of mutiny.

ALLIES Poised For Knock-Out

ALLIED massive air offensives launched on the enemy and the forerunner of the combined land and sea attack, according to the German-controlled broadcast, "Telegram Bureau last night."

"The Allies are expected to make a powerful effort to force a decision on the south front before the mid period paralysis traffic along the supply lines," it said.

"The Allies are expected to consider as a frantic race for revenge with each side running up the cost of the enemy's losses and everything depends on this."

NEW HUN CAPITAL

SOURCES in Naples described the youngest son of the Supreme Commander of the German navy, Admiral Doenitz, as the new south-east of Berlin and only 30 miles from the pre-war Polish border.

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GERMANS USED POISON AND TORTURE

2,000,000 Russians Murdered

ABOUT 2,000,000 Soviet citizens, including a large number of Red Army war prisoners, were killed—some of them poisoned and tortured in gas vans—by the Germans in the occupied Soviet territories, Moscow Radio announced yesterday.

The total was compiled by a special Soviet commission investigating war crimes.

Further trials of captured Germans who are known to have taken part in these mass murders and tortures are expected shortly, cables Harro Kinn, Reuter's correspondent in Moscow.

The Soviet Press, in publishing the figures, stressed the determination to meet the most severe punishment for these heinous crimes.

"At the end of this year, if not sooner, we shall have it just about right for tripping over."

General Montgomery had taken a day off from ordering to talk to the men and women who are making the tools with which he and his men are to defeat the enemy.

He toured factories producing tanks, guns and electrical and other equipment.

"Everywhere he went he was almost mobbed. At one factory working hard, he said, 'Good job, Monty, it's a fine job, and the steel is good and the tools are good.'"

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GENERAL MONTGOMERY told factory workers yesterday that Germany would be ready for the knock-out at the end of this year, if not sooner. "We have got this war absolutely gripped in a firm hold," he said, "and the enemy cannot escape."

"The only uncertain thing now is when the war is to end." General Montgomery added. "You can choose your own date and put your money on it."

"I have not the slightest doubt that if the battle front and the home front really get down to it this year we can get the thing almost finished—held so tightly that next year we just topple it over."

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Luftwaffe Stays Down

FORTS BEAT SNOW TO HIT MUNSTER

FORTRESSES flew into Germany yesterday to attack targets at Munster, and Liberators, too, battled with heavy snow to reach the Pas de Calais area, but not a single enemy fighter was seen.

The U.S. heavies flew over solid blankets of impenetrable clouds and bombed their targets "with the use of instruments."

They saw heavy smoke rising up through the clouds. The Fortresses were escorted by Thunderbolts and Mustangs, but fighters found it was too dark to see the targets.

Another force of Thunderbolts strafed aerodromes and gun positions in the Pas de Calais area. All the bombers returned. Four U.S. fighters were missing.

An American spokesman, commenting on the sustained effort, said that the outcome of the air battle would, barring accidents, be put beyond doubt in a few days.

All the U.S. losses had been reported in a matter of hours, and they could hit harder yet. Even heavier losses could be met without slowing down the mounting scale of the offensive.

The attacks were carried out in February were only 2.5 per cent of the total losses sustained in the first four months of the war.

Tremendous damage has been done to the German air force," the spokesman added, "and we are very well satisfied with the way things are shaping."

After the Fortresses got home yesterday, U.S. Raiders, escorted by Spitfires, bombed military objectives in the Pas de Calais, and all returned safely.

RAF Mosquitoes and Typhoons also went bombing over Northern France.

Targets of the Lancasters were in Central and Southern France.

They were the aircraft factory at Clermont Ferrand, which repairs aero engines; a factory at Osnabrück, which assembles fighters for Victory and repairs P.W. planes; and the aero factory at Chateauroux, engaged on transport planes.

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